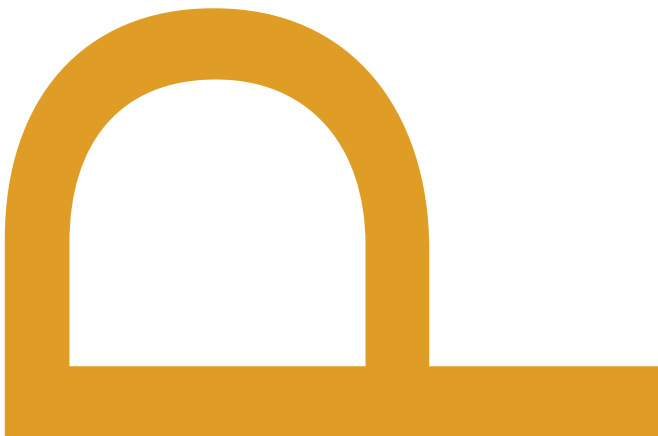
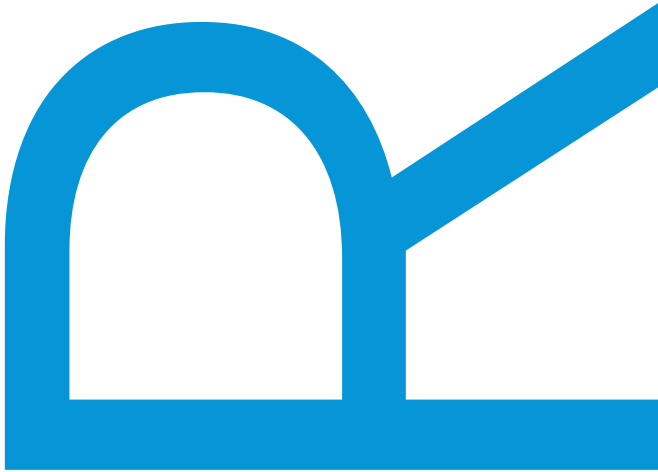




Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada



Annual Report
2023-24

PUBLIC LENDING RIGHT

Activities of the
PLR Commission and
of the PLR Program



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June 2024

Public Lending Right Commission

ANNUAL REPORT

of the PLR Commission and
of the PLR Program

2023-24

TORONTO REFERENCE LIBRARY: ORIGINS



As Toronto entered the twentieth century, a central library was built just west of where the present-day Toronto Reference Library now stands. Opened in September 1909 at the corner of St. George and College Streets with a collection of nearly 100,000 volumes, the Central Library, as it was then known, was the largest of the Carnegie libraries to be constructed in the province of Ontario. In 1967, with the creation of the Metropolitan Toronto Public Library system, the stage was set for a major civic project in keeping with the boldness of the times.



Photos courtesy of: Toronto Public Library

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TORONTO REFERENCE LIBRARY: A NEW VISION TAKES SHAPE

In the wake of rapid population growth, it became clear that Toronto needed to have a much larger and contemporary library at its urban core. As the 1970s dawned, plans were developed with Canadian architect Raymond Moriyama, whose design for the Ontario Science Centre had received widespread acclaim.



In the photo above, from left to right: Thomas Goudge, member of the Metropolitan Toronto Library Board; architect Raymond Moriyama; Paul Cosgrove, Mayor of Scarborough.



After several years of revisions and adjustments to the initial design, Moriyama's ambitious public vision came to fruition in 1977 with the opening of the Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library, just steps away from the intersection of Yonge and Bloor Streets. The new facility reflected the values of its architect, who sought to provide human scale and social connection to the daily functioning of the enormous reference collection.



Photos courtesy of: Toronto Public Library

Land Acknowledgement

The Canada Council for the Arts acknowledges the land on which our offices are located is the unceded, unsurrendered Territory of the Anishinaabe Algonquin Nation whose presence here reaches back to time immemorial.

The Council recognizes the Algonquins as the customary keepers and defenders of the Ottawa River Watershed and its tributaries. We honour their long history of welcoming many Nations to this beautiful territory and uphold and uplift the voice and values of our Host Nation.

Further, The Council respects and affirms the inherent and Treaty Rights of all Indigenous Peoples across this land. The Council has and will continue to honour the commitments to self-determination and sovereignty we have made to Indigenous Nations and Peoples.

The Council acknowledges the historical oppression of lands, cultures and the original Peoples in what we now know as Canada and fervently believes the Arts contribute to the healing and decolonizing journey we all share together.

This land acknowledgement was developed by members of the Algonquin community, and we thank them for their generosity and collaboration.

TORONTO REFERENCE LIBRARY: RAYMOND MORIYAMA'S CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT



The soaring interiors of the Toronto Reference Library echo the fabled Hanging Gardens of Babylon. Raymond Moriyama considered this building to be his crowning achievement as an architect of public spaces. The firm that he co-founded, Moriyama & Toshima, has been responsible for a host of celebrated projects, including the North York Central Library, the Scarborough Civic Centre, the Embassy of Canada in Japan, and the Canadian War Museum.



Photos courtesy of: Toronto Public Library

The Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library received a Governor General's Medal for Architecture following its completion in 1977. In 2009, Raymond Moriyama also received a Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts for his lifelong contributions to civic engagement and Canadian architecture.

About the Public Lending Right Program

Canada's Public Lending Right (PLR) Program was created in 1986 and has delivered annual compensation to authors ever since. Canadian authors are invited to register their titles with the program during the registration period, which is open from February 15 to May 1 each year. Literary and scholarly works across a range of genres (fiction, poetry, drama, non-fiction, and children's literature) are eligible for consideration. Eligible contributions to a registered title include original writing, illustration, photography, translation, and narration. Eligible titles are checked annually against library catalogue information from a selected group of public library systems across Canada to calculate payments to creators.

Payments to authors begin at \$50 and are determined by the extent to which eligible titles are discovered in the annual library catalogue samplings. The rate of compensation accorded to an eligible title is determined by a payment scale. This sliding scale comprises four levels which correspond to the number of years a title has been registered with the program. Each year the available budget, in tandem with the results of the library sampling and the number of eligible claims, serves to determine the maximum amount that an author can receive. In 2023-24, this amount was \$4,500.

The Public Lending Right Commission (PLRC) is a permanent advisory body of the Canada Council for the Arts. It is charged with administrative oversight of the program with responsibility for maintaining the program's eligibility criteria, sampling methodology, and general policies. The PLRC is comprised of individuals from both official language communities, who provide expertise and guidance to the program as authors, publishers, librarians, and government representatives.

TORONTO REFERENCE LIBRARY: A PLACE FOR THE PEOPLE



Soft lighting, abundant plantings, and the use of organic materials and warm earth tones help to make the spaces inside the vast library inviting on a human scale: the Toronto Reference Library offers an abundance of individual spaces for visitors to enjoy.

Photos courtesy of: Toronto Public Library



In 1998, the library adopted its current nomenclature when the Toronto Public Library was created as a result of the amalgamation of seven smaller library boards: TPL, as it is currently known, is the largest public library system in North America, with more than 100 branches providing services to the public.

Members and Staff

(as of March 31st, 2024)

Commission

Russell Wangersky (Chair)
WRITER

Mélikah Abdelmoumen (Vice-Chair)
WRITER

Semareh Al-Hillal
PUBLISHER

Marc-André Audet
PUBLISHER

Richard Davis (Ex-Officio Member)
DEPARTMENT OF CANADIAN HERITAGE

Mélanie Dumas (Ex-Officio Member)
BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ARCHIVES
NATIONALES DU QUÉBEC

Karin MacLeod (Ex-Officio Member)
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

Joanne Larocque-Poirier
(Ex-Officio Member)
CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS

Laurie D. Graham
WRITER

Bilal Hashmi
TRANSLATOR

Charles Leblanc
WRITER

Pilar Martinez
LIBRARIAN

Sylvie Thibault
LIBRARIAN

David Chariandy
WRITER

Catherine Leroux
WRITER

Serge Patrice Thibodeau
WRITER

Executive Committee

Russell Wangersky (Chair)

Mélikah Abdelmoumen (Vice-Chair)

Semareh Al-Hillal

Marc-André Audet

Laurie D. Graham

Charles Leblanc

Pilar Martinez

Sylvie Thibault

Staff

Peter Schneider (Executive Secretary)

Céline Gratton (Coordinator)

Ashley Cenatus
(Administrative Assistant)

Message from the Director and CEO



The Public Lending Right Program (PLR) has operated under the Canada Council for the Arts since it was created in 1986, and its importance in Canada's literary landscape has only grown since. The relationship between the PLR Commission and the Council's senior management has always been instilled with an openness that perfectly aligns with my own approach, which is focused on dialogue and collaboration.

I'd like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to PLR Commission Chair Russell Wangersky. He was a PLR member for eight years and his term as chair is ending in June 2024. He has accomplished remarkable work, especially with all the recent changes to the PLR, most notably with audiobook-related payments and the broadening of library sample collection.

In 2023-24, the PLR continued to look towards the future with the introduction of direct deposit payments so that creators receive their payments faster and more efficiently. And more work is underway to continue to improve the PLR over the coming years.

I cannot easily convey how much Canada's public library network means to me. Guaranteeing access to literature for everyone is crucial. Books, regardless of format, are a tremendous resource for Canadian society.

As an avid reader myself, I have always believed that libraries are much more than simply places to obtain books. They are places for connection, with creators and their works, but also with people. They can also be a haven, a sanctuary of sorts, where people can retreat into their own worlds.

In closing, I want to reiterate that the Council will fulfil its commitment to maintaining its unwavering support to the PLR's renewal.

I also want to thank the PLR team and the Commission for their constant dedication. They have worked tirelessly to implement the changes I mention above, and their contribution is essential.

I am positive that all the elements are in place to guarantee a long life for the PLR, which will continue to support creators in building an inclusive and sustainable literary ecosystem.

Michelle Chawla
Director and Chief Executive Officer, Canada Council for the Arts

TORONTO REFERENCE LIBRARY: REMODELED AND CULTURALLY VIBRANT



Between 2009 and 2014, the Toronto Reference Library underwent a major remodeling. Once again, the firm of Moriyama and Toshima (MTA) was engaged in the renovation project. In keeping with the times, more windows were added to permit daylight to enter the public spaces, and new facilities were opened within the building.

Photos courtesy of: Toronto Public Library



Since its opening in September 2009, the Bram and Bluma Appel Salon has served as an essential venue for literary events, including author readings, civic discussions, and on-stage interviews that feature speakers from Toronto and around the globe. In many ways, it has become the city's living room, a true salon in every sense.

Message from the Chair

It's hard to believe that it's been eight years since I picked up my phone in a St. John's, NL, office and heard the voice of PLRC Executive Secretary Peter Schneider on the other end, asking ever-so-diplomatically if I might consider becoming a member of the board.

Intrigued, I said yes.

Since then, I've been on a learning curve about library sampling programs, title "hits" and author shares, public lending right programs in other countries, and the nuts-and-bolts operations that provide payment and registration information for Canadian authors across the country and beyond.

That learning curve continues: the PLRC I joined could not have foreseen issues like our current considerations of artificial intelligence's growing reach into the creative process, and the issue of whether AI can ever be recognized as a stand-alone creator, or whether automatic computer narrators should have the same as humans voicing e-books, or what role computer translating programs play in the translation of books.

I know that debate will be handled wisely and thoughtfully by future board members who will continue to be informed and supported by the PLRC's small but extremely dedicated staff. (I count many of them, past and present, among my friends.)

Together, we have managed a world-class program, and worked to guide it towards future success.

I saw, first-hand, how well respected our program is, when I met with members of PLR International in Brussels in September of 2023. Canada's PLR program is the envy of many others, both in its governance and its egalitarianism. The unique design of the PLRC and the program as a whole is a standard that countries trying to build their own programs, and one that many existing PLR programs seek to emulate.

I'm proud to say that throughout my tenure, I've been part of a team who have had to make sometimes-difficult decisions about the program in order to ensure PLR's viability for years down the road.

Part of the program's viability rests in other hands — PLR's funding has increased once during my eight-year tenure, though the number of authors and books rises every year.

The current federal government made election commitments to increase the program's funding by 50 per cent — money that will be sorely needed to ensure the program works as intended, rewarding creators for the potential income lost by their work appearing in public library collections across this country.

I certainly hope, as a past chair, to wake up one morning in the very near future and find that promise has been kept.

It would be a recognition of everything successive PLR boards have done to manage, strengthen and improve a unique and valuable program.

Russell Wangersky
Chair, PLR Commission

Message from the Executive Secretary

Through decades of transformative change in the arenas of literary creation, publishing, and librarianship, the Public Lending Right Commission has continued to exercise its foundational responsibilities, providing stewardship and oversight of the program's operational policies, eligibility criteria, and library sampling methods.

Over recent years, with the Commission's guidance, the PLR Program has dramatically expanded the scope of its annual library sampling exercise, and these efforts are expected to be further refined in the future, as the Commission continues to advance an equitable and inclusive approach to the research that supports the payments to registered creators.

The PLR Program benefits from the goodwill and hard work of the dedicated staff of public libraries across Canada, who collectively ensure that our catalogue sampling is complete and accurate each year. The photo essay in this year's report celebrates the crown jewel of the Toronto Public Library system, the Toronto Reference Library. TPL, as North America's busiest public library system, is a valued sampling partner and the vast holdings of the Toronto Reference Library are world renowned. Despite incredible strain on its infrastructure and personnel last autumn, TPL was able to provide a complete catalogue to fulfill the PLR Program's request for data – a generous act of collegiality and support to the thousands of authors and other creators who receive compensation from PLR.

PLR benefited from another act of profound generosity in the past year, when the Commission was informed of a bequest amounting to nearly \$50,000 from the estate of the late children's book author Donald Brewster, of New Brunswick. Donald Brewster wished to support the work of the PLR Commission – this unexpected and unsolicited gift will be applied to our mission in the months to come.

As the PLR Commission's Executive Secretary, I have been fortunate to work with many dedicated government representatives over the years; the four non-voting, ex officio members who serve on the Commission offer technical advice, provide a high-level perspective on governance, and help to foster connectedness and awareness of PLR in their respective spheres of influence. In the past year, Karin Macleod, Director of Published Acquisitions, Private Archives and Published Heritage Branch at Library and Archives Canada and Joanne Larocque-Poirier, Director-General, Communications and Arts Engagement Canada Council for the Arts, have joined us as ex officio members, further enriching our work.

The Public Lending Right Commission has also been delighted to welcome two new francophone writer-representatives as voting members during recent months; Serge Patrice Thibodeau and Catherine Leroux bring a wealth of insight and expertise to the work ahead. As new members arrive, the Commission is also preparing for the departures of its three longest-serving members: outgoing Chair Russell Wangersky, Vice-Chair Mélikah Abdelmoumen, and anglophone publisher Semareh Al-Hillal will complete their terms of service following the Commission's next Annual General Meeting. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to support the work of these exceptional literary professionals.

Peter Schneider

Program Manager and Executive Secretary, PLR Commission

Comments on the Statistical Report

The report on the 38th year of the Public Lending Right (PLR) Program provides an overview of the impact of dynamic budgetary resources, the application of program criteria, the ongoing results of the application of the payment scale, and the minimum and maximum payment thresholds.

As is standard practice, the program statistics are based on three elements: number of authors, number of titles, and payments. This year, the PLR Program's total payment envelope decreased to \$14,698,764.54. A total of 667 author files were closed in 2023 owing to the 25-year limit on active title claim registration or in situations where no titles had been discovered following five years of search or in cases where the authors became inactive for other reasons (such as deceased). At the same time, 1,306 new authors registered with PLR for the first time in 2023 (this total includes 98 new authors whose 2022 registrations were processed during 2023 owing to procedural delays). The number of registered authors now stands at 20,925. The number of active registrants is expected to increase over the coming years, as more new authors register with PLR each year than are retired from active status. In order to provide support to new title registrations (Category I), the PLR Commission adjusted the sliding scale in 2023, reducing the rate of payment for Category IV titles from 60% to 50%.



The number of cheques issued by the program increased from 18,192 to 18,247 this year. As in years past, the minimum payment provided by the program was \$50. In this year's program cycle, the average payment decreased from \$814 to \$806; the median author payment decreased from \$402.85 to \$399.91. The maximum per-title payment (8 X the Category I hit rate) increased from \$485.36 to \$492.24. For the fifth consecutive year, the maximum payment to an individual was set at \$4,500.00.

The PLR Commission has successfully modeled and implemented an expanded approach to library sampling, which took effect in 2018: works created in all languages are now searched in a selection of library catalogues from across Canada. In 2023, as in 2022, a total of 40 distinct library networks were involved in the sampling. Library data from each province and territory has been incorporated in the program's financial modeling, significantly extending its reach, and bringing greater benefit to all active registrants.

Statistical Activity Report

Overview of the 38th Year of the PLR Program

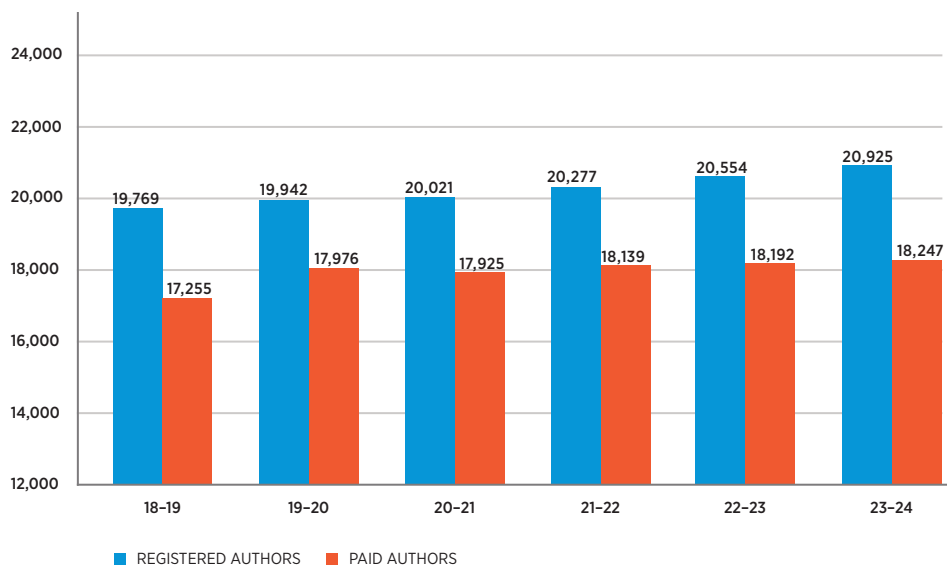
	2022-23	2023-24	Variation
Authors registered in the program	20,554	20,925	1.81%
Authors receiving payment	18,192	18,247	0.30%
Registered titles	92,325	95,701	3.66%
Eligible titles	91,712	94,992	3.58%
Titles paid	82,673	84,583	2.31%
Amount distributed to authors	\$14,799,642	\$14,698,765	-0.68%
Average payment per author	\$814.00	\$806.00	-0.98%
Minimum payment	\$50.00	\$50.00	0.00%
Median payment	\$402.85	\$399.91	-0.73%
Maximum payment	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	0.00%
Maximum amount paid per book (category I)	\$485.36	\$492.24	1.42%
Maximum amount paid per book (category II)	\$388.32	\$393.76	1.40%
Maximum amount paid per book (category III)	\$339.76	\$344.56	1.41%
Maximum amount paid per book (category IV)	\$291.20	\$246.08	-15.49%

New Authors (2023-24)

	2021-2022	2022-23	2023-24
New authors registered			
Anglophone			785
Francophone			521
Total	791	848	1,306
New authors receiving payment			
Anglophone			476
Francophone			355
Total	658	669	831
Amounts paid to new authors			
Anglophone			\$192,267
Francophone			\$143,323
Total	\$282,593	\$232,822	\$335,590

Note: The figures in this table may not add due to rounding.

Registered Authors and Paid Authors (2019-2024)



Historical Summary (1986-2024)

		Registered authors	Authors receiving payment	Average payment	Median payment	Eligible titles	Titles receiving payment	Maximum value per title	Total paid to authors
86-87	1	4,553	4,377	\$628	N/A	14,138	N/A	\$400.00	\$2,747,949
87-88	2	5,638	5,200	\$670	N/A	18,611	N/A	\$390.00	\$3,484,988
88-89	3	6,713	5,718	\$694	N/A	22,519	N/A	\$400.00	\$3,970,947
89-90	4	7,153	6,405	\$729	N/A	24,954	N/A	\$400.00	\$4,667,214
90-91	5	7,681	6,962	\$772	N/A	27,192	24,065	\$420.00	\$5,371,927
91-92	6	8,125	7,699	\$805	N/A	30,340	26,672	\$432.50	\$6,200,426
92-93	7	8,801	8,393	\$821	N/A	32,744	29,461	\$437.00	\$6,890,845
93-94	8	9,689	9,082	\$684	N/A	34,589	32,194	\$363.00	\$6,212,600
94-95	9	10,274	9,604	\$651	N/A	37,168	34,405	\$339.00	\$6,251,784
95-96	10	10,555	10,172	\$598	N/A	39,539	36,525	\$313.00	\$6,077,961
96-97	11	11,262	10,730	\$559	N/A	41,909	38,877	\$293.50	\$6,000,406
97-98	12	11,557	11,151	\$720	N/A	44,360	40,781	\$390.00	\$8,030,000
98-99	13	11,986	11,602	\$695	N/A	46,928	42,785	\$378.00	\$8,059,252
99-00	14	12,523	12,148	\$663	N/A	49,332	45,655	\$344.50	\$8,052,114
00-01	15	13,041	12,740	\$679	N/A	52,123	48,346	\$352.50	\$8,650,376
01-02	16	13,546	13,269	\$727	N/A	55,443	50,878	\$367.50	\$9,653,043
02-03	17	14,205	13,889	\$694	\$357	58,973	53,532	\$348.50	\$9,639,776
03-04	18	14,792	14,435	\$619	\$326	61,175	56,243	\$296.70	\$8,938,460
04-05	19	15,347	14,441	\$621	\$302	63,988	54,776	\$301.70	\$8,962,741
05-06	20	15,899	14,972	\$601	\$287	67,142	57,709	\$287.35	\$9,001,099
06-07	21	16,414	15,417	\$588	\$281	70,090	59,979	\$281.05	\$9,062,476
07-08	22	17,028	15,993	\$570	\$280	73,075	62,631	\$268.10	\$9,115,095
08-09	23	17,532	16,514	\$600	\$292	76,542	65,345	\$280.00	\$9,901,024
09-10	24	18,157	17,058	\$583	\$296	78,768	68,287	\$348.60	\$9,939,089
10-11	25	18,692	17,487	\$566	\$282	81,663	70,865	\$339.22	\$9,901,337
11-12	26	19,265	17,885	\$555	\$269	85,196	72,870	\$336.00	\$9,921,248
12-13	27	19,825	18,186	\$537	\$262	88,300	74,246	\$336.70	\$9,766,310
13-14	28	20,218	18,668	\$523	\$237	91,738	77,479	\$367.99	\$9,762,247
14-15	29	20,504	16,865	\$577	\$275	94,975	80,034	\$356.30	\$9,737,850
15-16	30	20,749	17,169	\$568	\$269	94,776	82,734	\$355.60	\$9,757,774
16-17	31	21,163	17,344	\$563	\$264	98,413	85,419	\$352.10	\$9,758,100
17-18	32	21,565	17,553	\$556	\$254	101,477	87,083	\$355.25	\$9,765,635
18-19	33	19,769	17,255	\$712	\$353	83,120	75,981	\$412.30	\$12,282,713
19-20	34	19,942	17,976	\$822	\$401	85,421	78,232	\$467.88	\$14,781,301
20-21	35	20,021	17,925	\$826	\$406	87,310	79,452	\$507.76	\$14,799,693
21-22	36	20,277	18,139	\$827	\$403	89,551	81,328	\$503.68	\$14,999,663
22-23	37	20,554	18,192	\$814	\$403	91,712	82,673	\$485.36	\$14,799,642
23-24	38	20,925	18,247	\$806	\$400	94,992	84,583	\$492.24	\$14,698,765

Distribution of Author Payments

1. Payments by Range and by Language (2023-24)

Payments	Language	Authors	% of Total Authors	Total Paid	% of Total Budget
Threshold not reached	E	1,370	70.04%		
	F	586	29.96%		
	E+F	1,956	100.00%		
From \$50.00 To \$399.91	E	5,562	30.48%	\$1,058,474	7.20%
	F	3,562	19.52%	\$689,374	4.69%
	E+F	9,124	50.00%	\$1,747,848	11.89%
From \$399.92 To \$806.00	E	2,417	13.25%	\$1,370,246	9.32%
	F	1,422	7.79%	\$828,408	5.64%
	E+F	3,839	21.04%	\$2,198,654	14.96%
From \$806.01 To \$999.99	E	603	3.30%	\$544,332	3.70%
	F	398	2.18%	\$356,745	2.43%
	E+F	1,001	5.48%	\$901,077	6.13%
From \$1,000.00 To \$1,999.99	E	1,303	7.14%	\$1,842,599	12.54%
	F	1,037	5.68%	\$1,441,928	9.81%
	E+F	2,340	12.82%	\$3,284,527	22.35%
From \$2,000.00 To \$2,999.99	E	455	2.49%	\$1,114,970	7.59%
	F	382	2.09%	\$931,283	6.34%
	E+F	837	4.58%	\$2,046,252	13.92%
From \$3,000.00 To \$4,499.99	E	287	1.57%	\$1,035,620	7.05%
	F	237	1.30%	\$865,786	5.89%
	E+F	524	2.87%	\$1,901,406	12.94%
Maximum \$4,500.00	E	254	1.39%	\$1,143,000	7.78%
	F	328	1.80%	\$1,476,000	10.04%
	E+F	582	3.19%	\$2,619,000	17.82%
Total with payment	E	10,881	59.63%	\$8,109,241	55.17%
	F	7,366	40.37%	\$6,589,523	44.83%
	E+F	18,247	100%	\$14,698,765	100%

Median: The median of a population is the point that divides the distribution of scores in half. In February 2024, 9,124 authors (50.00%) received \$399.91 or less. They shared 11.89% of the budget.

Average: In February 2024, the average payment was \$806.00. 12,963 authors (71.04%) received \$806.00 or less. They shared 26.85% of the budget. 5,284 authors (28.94%) received more than \$806.00. They shared 73.15% of the budget.

Note: The figures in this table may not add due to rounding.

Distribution of Author Payments

2. Payments by Province and Territory (2023-24)

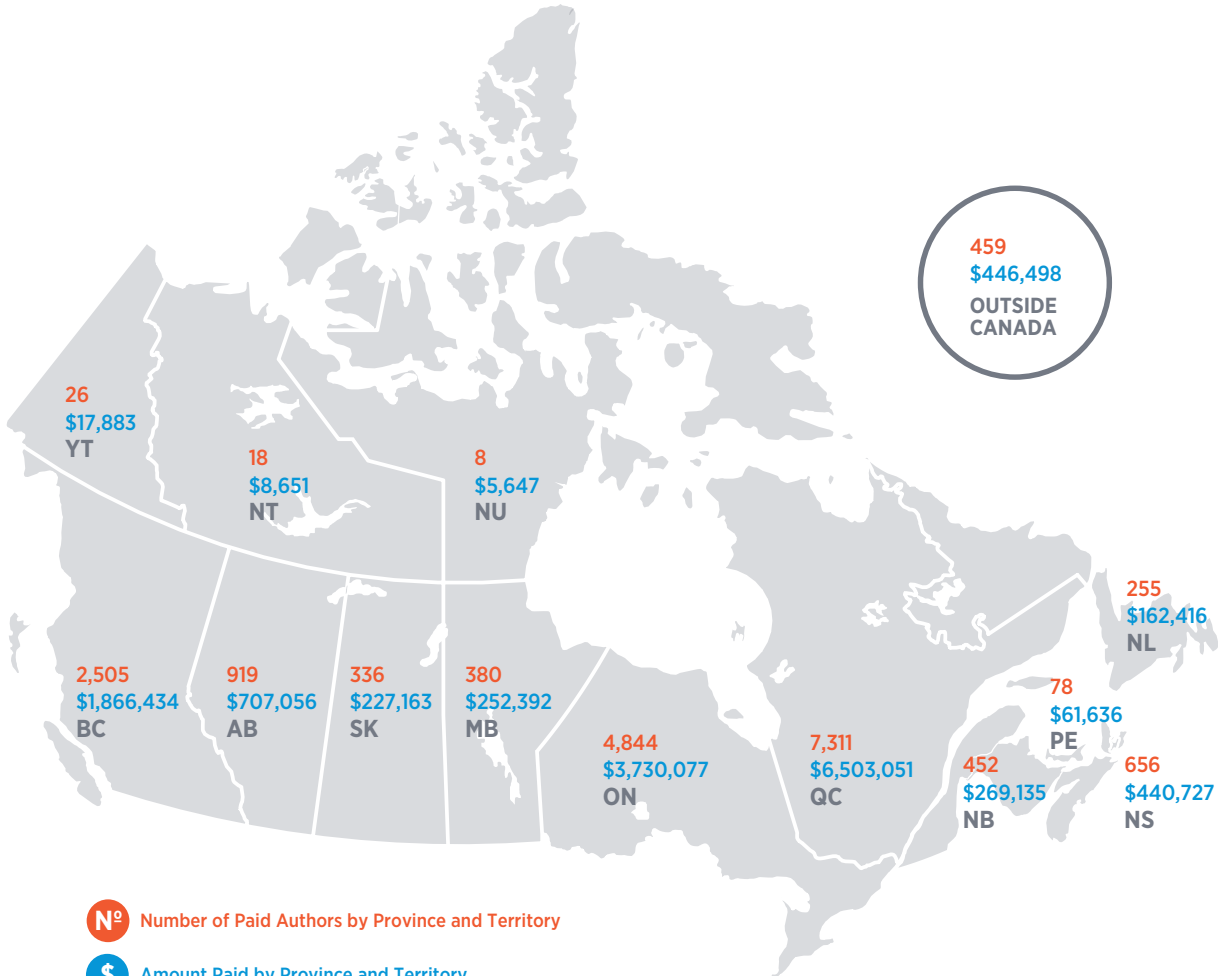
Province/ Territory	Registered Authors	% of Total Registered Authors	Number of Payments	% of Total Paid Authors	% of Authors Receiving a Payment	Total Paid	% of Total Budget
Newfoundland and Labrador	279	1.33%	255	1.40%	91.40%	\$162,416	1.10%
Nova Scotia	752	3.59%	656	3.60%	87.23%	\$440,727	3.00%
Prince Edward Island	92	0.44%	78	0.43%	84.78%	\$61,636	0.42%
New Brunswick	515	2.46%	452	2.48%	87.77%	\$269,135	1.83%
Quebec	8,113	38.77%	7,311	40.07%	90.11%	\$6,503,051	44.24%
Ontario	5,811	27.77%	4,844	26.55%	83.36%	\$3,730,077	25.38%
Manitoba	453	2.16%	380	2.08%	83.89%	\$252,392	1.72%
Saskatchewan	373	1.78%	336	1.84%	90.08%	\$227,163	1.55%
Alberta	1,069	5.11%	919	5.04%	85.97%	\$707,056	4.81%
British Columbia	2,884	13.78%	2,505	13.73%	86.86%	\$1,866,434	12.70%
Northwest Territories	19	0.09%	18	0.10%	94.74%	\$8,651	0.06%
Yukon	28	0.13%	26	0.14%	92.86%	\$17,883	0.12%
Nunavut	8	0.04%	8	0.04%	100.00%	\$5,647	0.04%
Outside Canada	529	2.53%	459	2.52%	86.77%	\$446,498	3.04%
Total	20,925	100%	18,247	100%	87.20%	\$14,698,765	100%

Example: In 2023-24, 86.86% of registered British Columbia authors received a payment. This represents 13.73% of paid authors. These authors received 12.70% of the payment budget.

Payments by Province and Territory (2023-24)

18,247
Total Authors Paid

\$14,698,765
Total Budget



Program Growth: New Titles (2023-24)

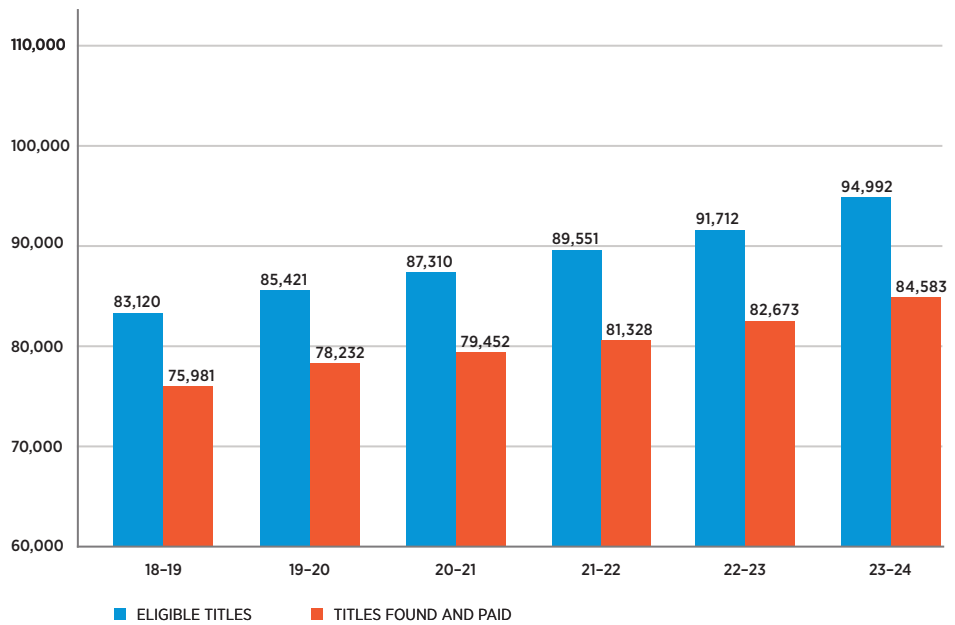
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Audiobooks
New registered titles				
English			4,020	667
French			2,869	253
Bilingual			32	1
Other			184	6
Total	6,143	6,152	7,105	927
New eligible titles				
English			3,547	577
French			2,651	215
Bilingual			26	1
Other			172	6
Total	5,577	5,539	6,396	799
New titles found in sampled libraries				
English			2,217	214
French			2,358	188
Bilingual			20	0
Other			33	4
Total	4,143	3,967	4,628	406
Amounts paid for new titles				
English			\$579,689	\$27,051
French			\$604,274	\$23,384
Bilingual			\$2,848	\$0
Other			\$4,127	\$424
Total	\$1,104,888	\$1,003,487	\$1,190,938	\$50,859

New Eligible Titles by Language and by Category (2023-24)

Category	English	French	Bilingual	Other	Total	% of Total Titles
Children's	794	1,084	8	41	1,927	30.13%
Fiction	1,692	966	5	89	2,752	43.03%
Poetry	249	156	8	6	419	6.55%
Drama	28	38	1	0	67	1.05%
Non-fiction*	784	407	4	36	1,231	19.25%
Total	3,547	2,651	26	172	6,396	
Total in %	55.46%	41.45%	0.41%	2.69%		

*Non-fiction includes scholarly works

Eligible Titles and Titles Found and Paid (2019-2024)



Eligible Titles by Language

Language	Year	Number of Titles	Growth in Comparison to Previous Year
English	2021-22	49,094	2.87%
	2022-23	50,212	2.28%
	2023-24	51,813	3.19%
French	2021-22	38,753	2.28%
	2022-23	39,788	2.67%
	2023-24	41,401	4.05%
Bilingual	2021-22	355	2.60%
	2022-23	369	3.94%
	2023-24	378	2.44%
Other	2021-22	1,349	-0.22%
	2022-23	1,343	-0.44%
	2023-24	1,400	4.24%
Total	2021-22	89,551	2.57%
	2022-23	91,712	2.41%
	2023-24	94,992	3.58%

Eligible Titles Found and Paid (2023-24)

Language	Number of Titles	Percentage
English	43,988	52.01%
French	39,475	46.67%
Bilingual	334	0.39%
Other	786	0.93%
Total	84,583	100%

Eligible Titles by Category and Language (2023-24)

Category	Language	Number of Titles	% of All Same Language Titles	% of All Titles of this Category	% of All Registered Titles
Children's	English	13,800	26.63%	44.20%	14.53%
	French	16,955	40.95%	54.30%	17.85%
	Bilingual	67	17.72%	0.21%	0.07%
	Other	403	28.79%	1.29%	0.42%
Total		31,225			32.87%
Fiction	English	16,568	31.98%	56.75%	17.44%
	French	12,090	29.20%	41.41%	12.73%
	Bilingual	34	8.99%	0.12%	0.04%
	Other	504	36.00%	1.73%	0.53%
Total		29,196			30.74%
Poetry	English	4,267	8.24%	55.37%	4.49%
	French	3,115	7.52%	40.42%	3.28%
	Bilingual	105	27.78%	1.36%	0.11%
	Other	219	15.64%	2.84%	0.23%
Total		7,706			8.11%
Drama	English	939	1.81%	57.78%	0.99%
	French	656	1.58%	40.37%	0.69%
	Bilingual	8	2.12%	0.49%	0.01%
	Other	22	1.57%	1.35%	0.02%
Total		1,625			1.71%
Non-fiction*	English	16,239	31.34%	64.34%	17.10%
	French	8,585	20.74%	34.01%	9.04%
	Bilingual	164	43.39%	0.65%	0.17%
	Other	252	18.00%	1.00%	0.27%
Total		25,240			26.57%
Total	English	51,813			54.54%
	French	41,401			43.58%
	Bilingual	378			0.40%
	Other	1,400			1.47%
Total of All Categories		94,992			100%

Note: The figures in this table may not add due to rounding.

The 16,239 English-language non-fiction titles represent: 31.34% of all English-language eligible titles; 64.34% of all non-fiction titles; and 17.10% of all eligible titles.

* Non-fiction includes scholarly works.

TORONTO REFERENCE LIBRARY: A RESOURCE FOR THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



Photos courtesy of: Toronto Public Library

In the present day, the Toronto Reference Library welcomes more than 1.5 million visitors annually, making it the busiest branch in North America's largest library system. The collections now embrace multiple media and more than 1.6 million items available to the public, on more than 80 km of open shelving.



Tucked within the Reference Library are a number of gemlike spaces. Among them, the contemplative Jack Rabinovitch reading room provides a quiet place for study, the gleaming TD Gallery presents free exhibitions drawn from the library's special collections, and the Victorian-era ambiance of the Arthur Conan Doyle collection draws fans of the fictional detective Sherlock Holmes from around the world.



Past Public Library Partners

The following libraries have participated in past PLR Program surveys:

NL

Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries

NS

Halifax Public Library
Nova Scotia Provincial Library

PE

Prince Edward Island Public Library Services

NB

Moncton Public Library
New Brunswick Public Libraries Catalogue

QC

Brossard Library
Gatineau Municipal Library
Granby Public Library
Grande Bibliothèque
Laval Library
Montreal Municipal Library
Quebec Library
Réseau biblio - Centre-du-Québec, de Lanaudière et de la Mauricie (CQLM)
Réseau biblio - The Bas-Saint-Laurent
Réseau biblio - La Mauricie
Réseau biblio - The Laurentians
Réseau biblio - Outaouais
Réseau biblio - Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean
Saguenay Library
Sherbrooke Library
St-Léonard Library
St-Jean-sur-Richelieu Library
Trois-Rivières Library

ON

Etobicoke Public Library
Greater Sudbury Public Library Hamilton Public Library
Kingston-Frontenac Public Library
Kitchener Public Library

London Public Library
Markham Public Library
Six Nations Public Library
Thunder Bay Public Library
Mississauga Public Library
North York Public Library
Ottawa Public Library
Toronto Public Library

MB

Manitoba Spruce Libraries Cooperative (previously South Central Regional Library) Western Manitoba Regional Library Winnipeg Public Library

NU

Nunavut Public Library Services

SK

Regina Public Library
Saskatoon Public Library
Saskatchewan Provincial Catalogue

AB

Calgary Public Library
Edmonton Public Library
The Regional Automation Consortium (TRAC)

NT

Yellowknife Public Library

BC

Burnaby Public Library
Fraser Valley Regional Library Okanagan Regional Library
Vancouver Island Regional Public Library
Vancouver Public Library
Greater Victoria Public Library

YT

Yukon Public Libraries

PLR – How the Program’s Value Stacks Up

Supporting Authors

Through PLR, over 18,000 Canadian authors are compensated annually for the availability of their work in libraries. Direct payments range from \$50 to \$4,500 a year. Eligible work includes original writing, translation, illustration, narration, and photography contained in books, e-books and audiobooks across a range of literary and scholarly genres.

Celebrating Libraries

We support and celebrate public access to Canadian content in libraries! PLR surveys the catalogues of public library systems across Canada in order to create its annual payments, working in close collaboration with professional librarians in all regions of the country. By supporting the work of PLR, Canadian public libraries benefit from a strengthened relationship with authors and publishers, further contributing to a strong literary ecosystem for all.

Enriching Readers and Listeners

Through its system of annual payments, PLR directly benefits Canadian literary creators and provides compensation for new and recently published work in a wide array of genres that can be accessed by the reading and listening public in library collections, year after year, thus enriching the cultural life of current and future generations.



PUBLIC LENDING RIGHT
PROGRAM

Public Lending Right Program

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The Public Lending Right Commission, which oversees the PLR Program, is an advisory body of the Canada Council for the Arts.



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